

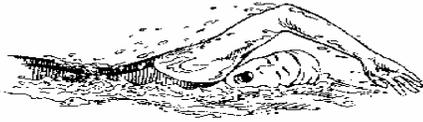


Water Digest

San Diego Chapter

www.Spa.and Pool.org

November 2000



Calendar of Events

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Nov 8-10, 2000 | NSPI International Expo & Conference | Orlando, Florida |
| Nov 11, 2000 | Builders Council 9-5 | |
| Nov 16-20, 2000 | Piscine Show | Lyon, France |
| Nov 28-30, 2000 | NSPI Canada Conference & Expo a | Ottawa, Canad |
| Dec 12-14, 2000 | NSPI Canada | Toronto, Canada |
| Jan 23-25, 2001 | Region I Show | Atlantic City |
| Feb 2-3, 2001 | Region X Show | Nashville, TN |
| Feb 8-10, 2001 | Western Pool & Spa Show: 23rd Annual | Long Beach, CA |
| Feb 11-13, 2001 | SPATEX | Brighton, UK |
| Feb 14-16, 2001 | Region V/VI Mid-America | Chicago |
| Feb 15-18, 2001 | Region II Conference & Exhibition | |
| Feb 23-24, 2001 | Region VII Show | Orlando, FL |
| Mar 22-24, 2001 | <u>Board of Directors</u> | Austin, TX |
| Mar 25, 2001 | Retailers Council | |
| Jul 26-28, 2001 | <u>Board of Directors</u> | Sun Valley, ID |
| Nov 28-30, 2001 | NSPI International Expo | Phoenix, AZ |
| Dec 9-10, 2001 | NSPI Canada | Toronto, Ontario |

PRESIDENTS LETTER

Greetings to all

How about that awards banquet!

Possibly the best showing in entries and attendance since I can remember.

As near as I could see, combining the awards with the golf tournament was a great concept. We were a little worried that some golfers might not be sufficiently rejuvenated for the dinner. But my fears were for naught. Everyone was in great shape.

The computerized slide show was also a hit.

So, all of you had better build some great pools this year, because next year is going to be even better.

Phil Grider, NSPI San Diego President

San Diego NSPI Board of Directors

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In Memoriam

NSPI members were saddened to learn of the death of Amber Arban on September 8, 2000. Our sympathy and support goes out to Billy and Christie Arban for their loss of this very special little girl.

The Amber Arban Memorial has been established at Children's Hospital. Members wishing to make a donation may send their checks to Children's Hospital MC 5013, 3020 Children's Way, San Diego, CA 92123. Please write "Amber Arban Foundation" on the face of the check.

The NSPI Board voted to send \$500 to this foundation in all of our names.



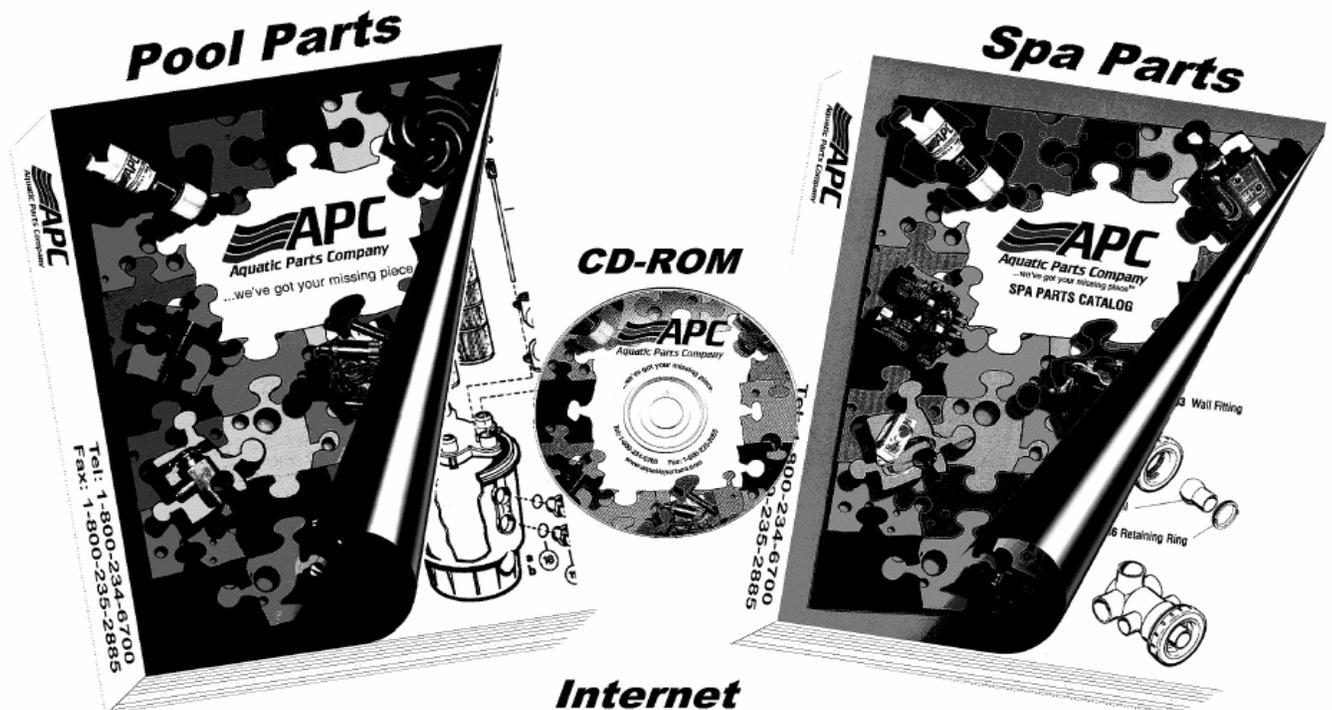
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Killer Watts by Rick English

I attended Fred Hair's seminar at the P.I.E show last month. He gave us a lot of great tips for plumbing. He also said that California was expecting a 40% rise in electric costs. He felt that pool owners might start downsizing pumps in order to save electricity. That really got me enthusiastic.

I decided to write this article because I knew that electric rates have already gone up by that much in San Diego. I know that we are billed in kilowatt-hours. I remembered that a kilowatt-hour was 1000 watt-hours. So I went down to the show and started asking questions at the booths. The question was really simple. "How many watts per hour do the various sizes of pumps consume per hour?" Nobody could give me a straight answer. So I changed my tactic. I remembered that wattage was equal to amperes times voltage. So I started asking, "How many amps do the various sizes of pumps draw?" Still couldn't get a great answer.

In all fairness the technical folks were probably not at the show and I couldn't afford to spend all that much time asking. I decided to write the article anyway.

I searched the Internet and found a site called www.onlineconversion.com. This site has thousands of calculators that allow you to convert anything to anything. So I checked and found out that one horsepower-hour was equal to .746 kilowatt-hours. That's what I'll use for this study.

Next what does electricity cost? I got out my last four electric bills. The results are in Table 1.

The reason for the second cost and rate columns is that in August we had the famous energy rate rollback. On my bill it says that there was an Electric Energy

Tom Casebier
Vice-President

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Table 1: Calculating Average Electricity Costs

| | | | | | |
|---------------|------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| June | 763 | 155.79 | | .2042 | |
| July | 1141 | 276.32 | | .2422 | |
| August | 826 | 185.21 | 114.72 | .2242 | .1389 |
| 3 month Total | 2730 | 617.32 | 546.83 | .2261 | |

Rate Adjustment of \$70.49. As I understand it, that amount will eventually have to be paid. So for this article I am going to use \$0.20 (20 cents) per kilowatt-hour. That is the average of the three months including the rate adjustment.

Now lets look at pumps. The health department has set flow rates for each brand and size of pump. I'll use the figures for the Sta-Rite series. (Do not read this as an endorsement of any brand). Lets take a backyard pool that is 450 square feet. The average depth is 5½ feet. I am going that we want one turnover per day. The results are in Table 2.

The are a lot of assumptions that you could challenge. For example you can see that a two horsepower pump will turn over a pool in 2.61 hours (2-hrs 37 min). Well, I have yet to see a time clock set to run that low.

A lot of people just run 8 hours per day regardless of pump size. If we were to compare the same pumps at a steady run time the result would look like Table 3.

Another assumption is the flow rates. As you know, the flow rate is most accurately determined by measuring total dynamic head on the system and then looking at the manufacturer's head curve for that

(Continued on page 6)

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NSPI, we are your HDR Insurance Services underwriters, We thank you and your agent for placing your coverage and trust with us.

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Barbara L. Neal*

*Michelle Storey
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For further information, please contact Mike Galloway at Wateridge Agency 1-800-223-6756.

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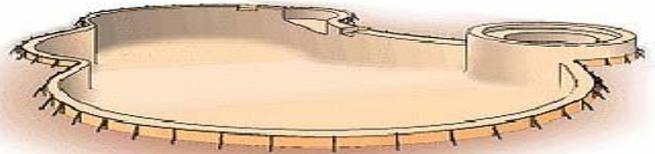
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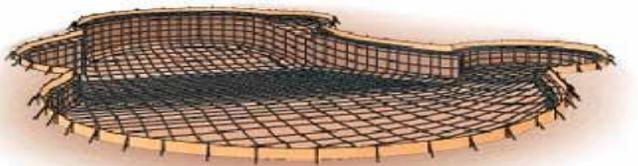






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KILLER WATTS

(CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 4)

pump.. Even if we did use head curves, how accurate are they? Does every pump made by a given manufacturer perform exactly as that head curve predicts? To complicate it even further the total dynamic head changes every time a valve is adjusted. TDH also changes as the filter gets dirty. I suppose that you could use a flow meter on each pool.

Doing all that is beyond the scope of this article. I wanted to give you all a sense of what a pump cost to run in San Diego. Our power situation is bad. I know that all the politicians are saying that they can fix it. But the simple fact is that there are not enough power generation plants. It takes years just to get ready to pull permits, years to get permits and then years to build the plants. So we all better accept the fact that electricity at 15¢ per kilowatt-hour will probably never come back in our lifetimes.

ASSUMPTIONS
 450 Square Feet
 5.5 Average Depth
 2475 Cubic feet
 18513 Gallons
 One turnover per day
 20¢ Energy Cost / KWH

Table 2: Energy Costs To Pump 18513 Gallons

| Pump Size | Kilowatts per Hour | Flow Rate | Turn over Time (Hrs) | Energy Cost (Day) | Energy Cost (Month) | Energy Cost (year) |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 0.50 | 0.373 | 39 | 7.91 | 0.5902 | 17.95 | 215.42 |
| 0.75 | 0.560 | 56 | 5.51 | 0.6165 | 18.75 | 225.04 |
| 1.0 | 0.746 | 73 | 4.23 | 0.6306 | 19.18 | 230.18 |
| 1.5 | 1.119 | 103 | 3.00 | 0.6704 | 20.39 | 244.70 |
| 2.0 | 1.492 | 118 | 2.61 | 0.7803 | 23.73 | 284.80 |

Table 3: Energy Costs to Run 8 Hours

| Pump Size | Kilowatts per Hour | Flow Rate | Gallons Circulated | Energy Cost (Day) | Energy Cost (Month) | Energy Cost (year) |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 0.50 | 0.373 | 39 | 18720 | 0.5968 | 18.15 | 217.83 |
| 0.75 | 0.560 | 56 | 26880 | 0.8952 | 27.23 | 326.75 |
| 1.00 | 0.746 | 73 | 35040 | 1.1936 | 36.31 | 435.66 |
| 1.50 | 1.119 | 103 | 49440 | 1.7904 | 54.46 | 653.50 |
| 2.00 | 1.492 | 118 | 56640 | 2.3872 | 72.61 | 871 |

Drowned ex-Stone's Swimming Pool Tiles on Sale

Rolling Stones fans can now go online to buy tiles from the swimming pool where Brian Jones drowned in 1969 in a sale branded tasteless by Mick Jagger and Bill Wyman. The present owners of the former Stone's secluded farmhouse in Hartfield, Sussex have been renovating its outdoor pool and are selling 320 of its tiles at £100 a go. The sale is being handled by the Brian Jones Fan Club on the net. A fan club spokesman said: "All but the tabloid press have reported the story in a sympathetic manner over what has been a difficult decision and we feel sorry that the Rolling Stones and Bill Wyman have supposedly condemned the sale of the tiles without knowledge of the full facts." <http://www.home.earthlink.net/~hobhead/brianstiles.htm>

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New Florida pool safety law upheld by judge

Contractor's suit to block statute's enforcement fails

BY CAROL MARBIN MILLER
cmarbin@herald.com

A Tallahassee judge has upheld a new state law designed to prevent accidental drowning, the state's leading cause of death for children under the age of five.

"We won today," said state Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, a Weston Democrat who sponsored the legislation in the House. "I'm the happiest person in the whole world."

The law, passed in May, requires new backyard pools that have not yet received final inspection to have one of four safety devices -- a pool fence, safety cover, alarm on doors and windows with pool access, or self-latching, self-locking doors and windows with pool access

In an unusual twist, the owner of a Tallahassee pool contracting company that filed the lawsuit challenging the law said he was pleased with the outcome as well.

The suit had argued, among other things, that the new law was unconstitutional because it was so vague that people of ordinary intelligence "would have to guess" at what it means in order to comply, court records show.

Pool companies feared they would be criminally liable if they built a pool that did not contain one of the four safety features.

But Leon Circuit Judge Terry P. Lewis said pool owners, not builders, would likely be held accountable for violating the statute. Those who violate the law -- a second-degree misdemeanor -- will have 45 days to install a safety device and will have to take a drowning prevention course.

CPSC RELEASES STUDY ON POOL ALARM

Reliability

Barriers, Supervision Still Key to Preventing 350 Child Drownings Each Year

The CPSC study looked at three types of alarms: floating alarms that detect waves on the surface; underwater alarms that detect waves under the surface; and a wristband alarm, which is worn by a child, and

alarms when exposed to water.

CPSC's tests showed that underwater alarms performed the most consistently (with one surface alarm - PoolSOS - performing almost as well). Underwater sensors alarm more consistently and are less likely to false alarm. When a test object, intended to simulate the weight of a small child, was pushed into a pool, the underwater sensors detected it most reliably. The underwater alarms also can be used in conjunction with pool covers, whereas the surface alarms cannot. The wristband device alarmed well but can be impractical because the caregiver must remember to put it on the child, and it alarms when exposed to any water source, such as tap water.

In the underwater alarm category the Poolguard by PBM Industries and the Sentinel LINK by Lambo Products Inc. performed well

In the floating/durface alarm category the PoolSOS by Allweather Inc. performed well.

CALIFORNIA DUMB LAWS

from www.dumblaws.com

Statewide Dumb laws

- Sunshine is guaranteed to the masses.
- Animals are banned from mating publicly within 1,500 feet of a tavern, school, or place of worship.
- It is a misdemeanor to shoot at any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless the target is a whale.
- Women may not drive in a house coat.
- No vehicle without a driver may exceed 60 miles per hour.
- In an animal shelter, lizards and snakes are treated under the same guidelines as cats and dogs.

San Diego Dumb Laws

- * It is illegal to shoot jackrabbits from the back of a streetcar.
- * The owners of houses with Christmas lights on them past February second may be fined up to \$250.

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